STATEMENT ON MISSOURI'S REQUIREMENTS FOR OUT-OF-STATE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS TO LEGALLY OFFER POSTSECONDARY DISTANCE EDUCATION OR CORRESPONDENCE EDUCATION IN THE STATE

The U.S. Department of Education has released new regulations for institutions offering distance education outside the boundaries of their own state. § 600.9 State authorization requires the following:

(c) If an institution is offering postsecondary education through distance or correspondence education to students in a State in which it is not physically located or in which it is otherwise subject to State jurisdiction as determined by the State, the institution must meet any State requirements for it to be legally offering postsecondary distance or correspondence education in that State. An institution must be able to document to the Secretary of State's approval upon request.

The Missouri Department of Higher Education requires out-of-state public institutions offering postsecondary education to students in Missouri to affirm, in writing, that the institution is accredited by a regional accrediting body, and that the institution will adhere to the MDHE Principles of Good Practice for Distance Learning and Web-Based Courses. (Policy for the Review of Academic Program Proposals)

Out-of-state public institutions wishing to offer distance education in Missouri in compliance with the U.S. Department of Education guidelines should submit a letter to the MDHE (at the address listed below) affirming their compliance with both regional accrediting standards and the MDHE Principles of Good Practice for Distance Learning and Web-Based Courses.

Missouri Department of Higher Education Attention: Distance Education Certification 205 Jefferson Street P.O. Box 1469 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Please note this statement is applicable only to <u>out-of-state public institutions</u>. All other institutions should refer to <u>Proprietary School Certification</u> for information on offering distance education within the state.